



SECTOR: Child Protection Sub-Working Group (CP SWG)

Meeting Details	
Date	19 th October 2022
Time	16:00
Chair	UNICEF
Reporting	UNHCR
Email	lampe@unhcr.org , sclifos@unhcr.org
Agenda	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introductions & Attendance/ New/All Participants2. Follow-up on Action Points/UNHCR, UNICEF/ CP SWG3. Presentation on UASC from AVE Copiii4. Update on education from the deputy mayor5. Update on the Child Protection Referral Pathways6. RRP 20237. AOB	
Information collection and relevant links	
Please use the below link to fill out information	
Link to operational data portal: https://data.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine/location/10784	
Participants	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1- Katherine/UNHCR (Co-chair)2- Tatiana/UNICEF (Co-chair)3- Myriem/ICRC4- Aida/Humanity and Inclusion5- Laurel/People in Need6- Julia/CNPAC7- Stavros/Plan International8- Dominique/Plan International	



- 9- Eloi/Library Without Borders
- 10- Jelena/ IRC
- 11- Ina/ADRA Moldova
- 12- Jelena/IRC
- 13- Marcel/Lumos
- 14- Yulie/Early Starters International
- 15- Simona/ Terre des Hommes NL
- 16- Oleg/Palladium
- 17- Cristina/INTERSOS
- 18- Martina/OHCHR
- 19- Liliana/CCF Moldova
- 20- Anna/ CNTM
- 21- Natalia/APSCF
- 22- Andrei, MLSP
- 23- Leila/Dorcas Aid International
- 24- Other

Summary of discussions and agreements/ action points

Agenda	Discussion	Agreements/ Actions
1. Introductions & Attendance/ New/All Participants	The co-chair and newly arrived participants were introduced. The meeting's agenda was presented for approval. Participants were also requested to mark their attendance and the new participants introduced themselves.	
Presentation AVE Copiii	<p>AVE Copiii presented on unaccompanied and separated children, giving the main highlights on the issue and on the numbers and referencing the importance for the future planning of the response.</p> <p>The main figures presented were of the Ukrainians entering Moldova. These arrivals have put pressure on the child protection authorities.</p>	Presentation to be shared the members of the CP SWG.



	<p>The second figure presented was related to the foreign citizens on the territory of Moldova. AVE Copiii shared a statistic of 84,719, including 43,196 minors. Numbers show that at least 10,108 of these people applied for asylum.</p> <p>AVE Copiii noted that from March to June 2022, the general number of Ukrainians in Moldova was decreasing. Since June, this number has been slowly increasing. The number of children was consistently increasing from March to June and then started decreasing after the 26th of June.</p> <p>Ave Copiii registered and assisted a total of 801 separated children and 98 unaccompanied children. From this total, 74 children have left the country. AVE Copiii noted that they have no intention to close these cases before having a clear idea on the situation and location of the children.</p> <p>The data obtained from the Border Police shows a total of 830 unaccompanied or separated children entering Moldova from Ukraine. This data does not include the children accompanied by the family members and who were then left unaccompanied on the territory of Moldova.</p> <p>AVE Copiii shared their main conclusions based on the cases they have worked on. First, they noted that more and more children with relatives are entering Moldova. Some children are entering with their parents, who are then returning to Ukraine shortly thereafter. AVE Copiii is aware of adolescents who are living and working in Chisinau by themselves, while their parents commute between Moldova and Ukraine.</p> <p>AVE Copiii has also noted a number of parents or caregivers who are commuting between Moldova and Ukraine (due to various reasons, some for shopping). This is not a trend, but observation from the cases managed by AVE Copiii.</p> <p>AVE Copiii also noted that some children are coming back to Ukraine to continue school.</p> <p>A concern was noted as to the location of these children in the country. Based on AVE Copiii's rapid assessment in 24 districts in the country, they identified 3215 children, including 855 of school age.</p>	<p>AVE Copiii to check with their staff and the data base will be consulted.</p> <p>A point for the data for the children left separated or unaccompanied on the territory of Moldova to be introduced in the data collection process.</p>
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There is a general lack of registration all refugees from Ukraine which prevents child protection actors from fully understanding the situation and their needs. In some districts, the social assistants are monitoring all families with children and they have a database. In this way one can check the figures and have a better understanding on UASC. However, some communities are not monitored and it is difficult to understand how many children there are and the type of needs they face. It was noted that there are also families who do not want to access help if they must pass their data to the authorities or an NGO.

It was noted that the visibility of the community social workers is much lower, and the refugees don't know to whom address. On UASC, some of cases are not reported as they are not identified correctly.

It was also noted situations where the carer does not want to declare that he is caring for a child, without having any legal documents to that, as they are afraid of separation. Similar cases are reported in the South of Moldova. A protection solution to establish custody. However, this is more difficult if the person is a foreign citizen.

On Roma children, AVE Copiii shared several highlights not necessarily related to UASC. In RACs, a wide majority of Ukrainian parents are excluding Roma children from the activities for children. AVE Copiii noted that Roma community is reluctant to enroll their children in school. Understanding that this is culturally related, however, being in school is an important identification place for UASC. Lack of care facilities for pre-school children are also reported.

AVE Copiii recommends to implement a mandatory registration of all Ukrainian children. This will help to identify the UASC and assistance they need. Other recommendations are related to the rules of BCP crossing for children between 16 and 18, procedures for assisted return for UASC and access to the education system.

UNHCR noted the draft on temporary protection was released for public comments and AVE Copiii's recommendations should be included in that.

UNHCR noted the very large number of infants and toddlers reported in AVE Copiii's statistics, and encouraged CPSWG members to keep this in mind for the next year's programming.



	<p>AVE Copiii stated they are concerned as to whether all Ukrainians will want to apply for Temporary Protection.</p> <p>Plan International asked about disaggregated data on the refugees in Moldova during the last month in Moldova. Another question was related to the data for children who ended up unaccompanied on the territory of Moldova and if there is any way to monitor them.</p> <p>AVE Copiii noted that starting from June-July, the age largest group of reported separated children is adolescents. For boys, this might be related to the army enrollment requirement (for boys nearing 18 years old). However, this is just an anecdotal observation.</p> <p>For the second question, AVE Copiii is not aware of the numbers. AVE Copiii also confirmed that they don't have children with Russian parents in their collected data.</p>	
<p>Update on Education from the deputy mayor of Chisinau</p>	<p>Deputy mayor of Chisinau, Angela Cutasevici, followed with an update stating that if the status of the refugee children enrolled in education will not be changed, their social inclusion won't be ensured.</p> <p>Statistics in Chisinau shows a total of 607 children in schools, out of which 284 are in first to fourth grade, 230 children are in secondary schools, and 16 children are in high school. For kindergarten, figures shows 292 children enrolled.</p> <p>A total of 238 Refugee children are enrolled in non-formal institutions. The Deputy Mayor added that out of 607 children, only 145 children are fully enrolled, others carrying the status of an auditor. This means 385 children are not fully enrolled. This specific category is prone to school abandonment.</p> <p>Results of the informational campaign "Help me to help you" show that over 4000 refugees were informed about the services offered by the municipality. 238 children in at risk situations were identified, each case being evaluated and assisted by the Child Protection Direction. The result of the first stage of the campaign will be done through a public communication. An invitation will follow. At the second stage of the campaign, a more accurate picture will be</p>	<p>Proposal to establish a dialogue with the Ministry of Education to support the children who are attending school only as auditors.</p>



	<p>represented, as the first stage happened during the summer holidays. Continuous dialogue to be carried with the informed population.</p> <p>A big problem noted by the Deputy Mayor was the lack of places in kindergartens.</p> <p>The deputy mayor confirmed that of the cases assisted by DGPDC, there were cases of unaccompanied children.</p>	
Update on the Child Protection Referral Pathways	<p>The content of the six referrals pathways was presented by the UNHCR Child Protection Team. The child protection referral pathways will be shared with the members for feedback and a final draft will be released for other protection working groups. The content of the referral pathways will be updated monthly. The referral pathways include contact information for the guardianship authorities, the focal points from UNHCR, UNICEF, the Blue Dot locations. It also contains a brief explanation of the referral to the needed services (health, MHPSS, security or alternative care). UNHCR noted that some gaps were identified for the NFIs part, particularly in covering the need for winter clothes and shoes.</p>	<p>Field visits to be organized for the process of updating the referral pathways. This will be a living document.</p>
RRP 2023	<p>The message from the refugee coordination forum about the project submission was sent. UNHCR stressed the short deadline for project submissions. Further questions about the process should be addressed to the Interagency team or to the Child Protection Officer. Members are encouraged to submit the projects.</p>	<p>List of the questions to be compiled and shared with the interagency team.</p>
Temporary Protection draft	<p>The protection working group will be consolidating inputs and a template will be shared to record inputs. The draft is in Romanian, but the English translation will be shared soon. Reminder that the window for consolidating the inputs is very short.</p>	
AOB	<p>Plan International proposed to discuss the referral mechanism in RACs, with an emphasis on coordination in the RACs. They proposed to start with Chisinau and bring the actors together to define their attributions. This is crucial to ensure that actors are doing no harm and to avoid duplication.</p>	<p>Proposal from Plan International to coordinate on this and discuss on the next Child protection sub working group.</p>